Hyderabad/Secunderabad whose details are:—

1. Masood Travels (P) Ltd. Hyderabad.

2. Mercury Travels (P) Ltd. Hyderabad; and

3. India Travel Bureau (P) Ltd. Secunderabad.

(d) Criteria for appointing new agencies of Indian Airlines are based upon the commercial needs of the Airlines, such as, capacity of Indian Airlines available at any particular point of time the requirements of travelling public, etc. A Committee considers all applications for agency from time to time and decides each application on merits, keeping the requirements in view.

Advertisement regarding Infant Foods

3021. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that misleading advertising is on the increase in respect of infant foods;

(b) whether Government have seen Cerelac advertisements where 'New Cerelac Apple' is being canvassed over instant cerelac milk with photographs of apple fruit; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a high powered standing committee to monitor all advertisements with representation from voluntary organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGERET ALVA): (a) The Ministry is not aware of such misleading advertising. However, Government have suspended advertisements of all baby foods on Radio and T.V. Government have no control over private advertising in the print media.

(b) Yes, Sir. Advertisements have come to the notice of the Ministry where "Nestle Cerelac instant milk Cereal" is being propagated for use in addition to milk, for children of four months and above.

(c) No, Sir.

Primary Schools in the Country

3022. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of primary schools in the country and how many of them are situated in tribal, hilly and desert areas;

(b) whether under "Operation Blackboard" a primary school is supposed to be functional with a school building having at least two reasonably large all weather-rooms with an attached verandah and separate toilets for boys and girls, at least two teachers and essential teaching and learning material including blackboards, maps, charts; a small library; toys and games equipment;

(c) if so what is the number of primary schools out of these which are functional with the above essential facilities in the country and in the areas mentioned in (a) above; and

(d) what are the targets for the sectors for the year 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI):

(a) As per latest available information pertaining to 1985-86, there are 528079 primary schools. Data relating to their location in tribal, hilly and desert areas is not available.

(b) and (c) The scheme of Operation Blackboard lays down the minimum level of facilities to be provided

in all primary schools: (i) provision of at least two reasonably large all-weather rooms with a deep verandah along with separate toilet facilities for boys and girls (ii) provision of at least two teachers, as far as possible one of them a woman, in every primary school and (iii) provision of essential teaching and learning material including blackboards, maps; sharts; small library, toys and games and some equipment for work experience.

This scheme has been started with effect from 1987-88. It was proposed to cover all primary schools in 20 per cent blocks/municipal areas in the country in 1987-88. The States were advised to select at least one block from every district, giving preference to educationally backward blocks as far as possible.

So far 27 States/UTs have recommended proposals for central assistance. The selected blocks/municipal areas propose provision facilities to 112099 primary schools. Data regarding location in hilly, desert and tribal areas is not available.

(d) All primary schools in 30 per cent of blocks/municipal areas in the country are targetted for 1988-89. Separate targets for these sectors are not laid down.

Constitution of a Committee Presided over by the Officials

3023. SHRI DURGA PRASAD JAMUDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are committees constituted by Government in the Railways which are presided over by the officials inspite of the fact that Members of Parliament and other important non-officials are members of those committees;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to this anomaly, if so, the response thereto; and

(c) what is the inter-se-position of such officials and the M.Ps. in the order of protocol issued by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committees and the Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees are presided over by the concerned General Managers and the Divisional Rail Managers respectively.

(b) and (c) The above committees are advisory in nature and their meeting are not treated as State functions entailing protocol arrangements. Therefore, it is not considered necessary to make any change in the existing arrangements.

Rail Link from Raniganj to Bankura

3024. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been made by the Ministry of Energy in regard to a rail-cum-road link from Raniganj to Bankura via Mejia for the proposed Thermal Power Project at Mejhia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A new Broad Gauge line, 43 km long, from Raniganj to Bankura via Mejhia for transportation of coal to the proposed Thermal Power Plant at Mejhia was suggested. Since coal for the proposed Thermal Plant would be available from Mejhia coal fields itself, the Raniganj-Bankura line would not be required for movement of coal to the Thermal Plant. Ministry of Energy was advises accordingly.